

REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH
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1. The Transport Department of SMA Karlsruhst is now considering putting into operation the plans made in 1939 by the German Ministry of Transport for the construction of an Elbe-Spree-Oder canal. General Kvashnin, chief of the Transport Department of SMA Karlsruhst, has asked that these plans be submitted to him for perusal and approval. The SMA at Cottbus has ordered the local SED leaders to push for the furtherance of this project through agitation in the Cottbus City Council. In this way the Russians could avoid taking the initiative in the project and execute the whole plan as though they were acting only to comply with the wishes of the Cottbus civic authorities.
2. Apart from the economic advantages to be obtained from such a water link, the project has been given further impetus because of the fact that the Western Section of the Scientific and Technical Department of the Soviet Ministry for Coal at Berlin-Weissensee has shown considerable interest in the problem of facilitating the transportation of brown coal from the open cast works in the Senftenberg-Cottbus area. At present, this coal is moved by rail, a mode of transportation which will be [REDACTED] intend to carry out with regard to production of coal in this area [REDACTED] These improvements consist mainly of the conversion of the open cast workings— which are becoming exhausted— into deep mines, since further seams of coal have been discovered underneath the present surface ones.
3. The Soviet agency at Berlin-Weissensee is experimenting with hydrogenation and briquetting processes, and for this purpose has been sending for sample shipments of coal from the Donets Basin and mixing it with coal from the Senftenberg area, with a view to obtaining higher-quality products than can be manufactured from the Donets coal alone.

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Comment: [redacted] Donets Basin coal was being brought to Senftenberg, and not vice versa. No explanation was given for the high value which was apparently assessed to such a mixture.) 50

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Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

☐ DECLASSIFIED

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